GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4454
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2010
JOBS TO MANUAL SCAVENGERS
Biju Shri P. K.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether manual scavengers are still employed in the Railways;

(b) if so, the details of total number of scavengers employed by the Railways, zone-wise;

(c) the details of time period of the scavengers working in the Railways;

(d) the nature of their job whether permanent or casual;

(e) the benefits like health available for them; and

(f) the steps taken by the Railways to eradicate the night soil carrying activities in the Railways?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) to (f): No, Madam. There is no manual scavenging being practised in any establishments under the control of the Ministry of Railways.

All old dry latrines requiring manual scavenging have been converted either to sanitized latrines with proper septic tank systems, to bio-latrines or aqua privy latrines which do not require manual scavenging. Further, for having an effective waste disposal system, concrete washable aprons on platform tracks and controlled discharge toilets in select trains have also been provided.